

The Sun.

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 THE SUN, New York City.

Tilden, Manning, and Hill.

The Democratic voters of the country are accustomed to see New York represented in the National Conventions of the party by well-disciplined forces, able and courageous leaders of victory. When so led, the influence of the Empire State is predominant. Upon the efficiency and perfection of organization here depends, in great measure, not only the decisive electoral votes of New York, but also those of the other doubtful and necessary States in the East.

In 1870 the Democrats of the Empire State enthusiastically, but not unanimously, pronounced in favor of SAMUEL J. TILDEN. The Democrats of the country knew what that avowal of preference meant. It meant victory for the party in New York, under the leadership of a General, whose matchless control of the details of party organization commanded the admiration of Democrats, and extorted the praise of Republicans everywhere.

Again, in the Convention of 1874, the Democrats of New York, despite the differences of opinion which then existed as to the propriety of choosing the nominee favored by the majority of the delegation, were led by DANIEL MANNING, a splendid organizer of party triumphs, trained in the school of SAMUEL J. TILDEN and skilled in his teachings. Against the doubts, fears, and misgivings incident to such an occasion of possible peril to the party prospects, the massive political personality and splendid force of DANIEL MANNING stood firm as a rock at the head of a perfectly equipped army in every ward and township of the State.

This year, again, the confidence of the party is generally in DAVID B. HILL, the Democrat of New York, who has a leader and organizer worthy of its best traditions and achievements, and one who has the record of a long train of victories. Under his generalship, sustained as he is by a well-disciplined, compact, and enthusiastic organization in every section of the State, no reverse has ever been encountered by the party, and none is possible this year.

The Democracy of New York is fortunate, at such a crisis as this, in having at its head a leader worthy to be ranked with TILDEN and MANNING. The party here, it may truly be said, was never before, two months in advance of a National Convention, in better condition for a successful fight.

At the End of Her Tether.

The *Chicago Tribune* has printed a curious frank statement concerning the finances of the World's Fair and the "policy" of Chicago in her application for money from the United States Treasury with which to carry on her undertaking. We reproduce in another column this singular outbreak of wrath, disgust, and consequent candor. It deserves the widest publicity. Every taxpayer should read it. Every Congressman should read it. Every citizen should read it.

The proposition that the Government shall subscribe to \$5,000,000 of the stock of the Illinois Columbian Exposition has been withdrawn. A committee of directors went to Washington about two weeks ago in order to look over the ground, and this committee reached the conclusion that there was no prospect of the passage of a bill making the Government a stockholder and partner in the show enterprise. As the *SUN* informed Chicago long ago, the obstacle to such an arrangement is nothing more or less than the Constitution of the United States.

The result of this discovery is a return to the earlier idea of a \$5,000,000 loan from the Government, "secured" by a second mortgage on the gate money. The Chicago committee in Washington believe that it is this or nothing; that "as the five millions must be had, the only practical means of getting it must be adopted." And this is the Columbia Exposition has been withdrawn. A committee of directors went to Washington about two weeks ago in order to look over the ground, and this committee reached the conclusion that there was no prospect of the passage of a bill making the Government a stockholder and partner in the show enterprise. As the *SUN* informed Chicago long ago, the obstacle to such an arrangement is nothing more or less than the Constitution of the United States.

The *Chicago Tribune* is quite right in supposing that the bill will be attacked, even in its present form. The proposed loan of \$5,000,000 by the United States to the Illinois corporation, with a second mortgage on gate money as security, is quite as unconstitutional as the stock subscription of \$5,000,000 or the gift of \$5,000,000. Our Chicago correspondent admits this in its wrath over the abandonment of the direct appropriation idea. "If a loan is constitutional," says the *Tribune*, "so is a gift." If a gift is unconstitutional, so is a loan on a second mortgage on gate receipts. If the security offered by Chicago is good, she can take it into the money market at any time and procure the \$5,000,000 without troubling Congress. If the security is not good, she is asking for a gift while pretending to ask for a loan, and is therefore at her old game of bunco again.

That the security is by no means good is practically admitted by the Chicago newspaper. "The Fair needs \$5,000,000 more," it says. "If it can get five from the Government, it can easily borrow the other three. It cannot borrow eight." We should say true, as the *Chicago Tribune* alleges, that the promoters of this speculative local enterprise are now at the end of their tether, and that when the second mortgage loan bill is defeated they will have nothing left to compromise on? We suggest that they endeavor to compromise on the basis of the original promises which induced Congress to send the Fair to Chicago.

"We will ask no money from Congress," said the Hon. WILLIAM M. SPRINGER, "except what will be required for the buildings and exhibits of the Government."

"I make this statement," said the Hon. FRANK LAWLER, "and I will verify it again, that if \$5,000,000 or \$10,000,000 or \$25,000,000 are necessary to make the World's Fair a success in Chicago, it will be raised within the next six months."

"I desire to state," said the Hon. SHELLEY M. CULLOM, "in behalf of the great city of Chicago, either as an organized government or as a great body of over a million people, that there is no purpose on the part of any-

body in that city other than to carry out to the very letter the pledges which have been made on their part to the committees of the two Houses of Congress."

"Do you suppose," demanded the Hon. WILLIAM M. SPRINGER again, "that the city of Chicago, which wants this Fair so much, which has made so honorable and so stupendous an effort to secure it, is going to allow the enterprise to lapse into desuetude? Not at all. It will be a success. The gentlemen whose names are subscribed to this paper will make it the grandest Fair that was ever held in this country or in any other. Their honor is pledged; their money is pledged; they are able to carry out their promises. Does any gentleman on this floor believe that these honorable and responsible gentlemen have been playing with Congress; that they have come here as confidence men to deceive us?"

How does a compromise on the basis of these original pledges strike Chicago, now that in her bunco game she is at the end of her tether?

The Freedom of Worship Bill.

The text of the Freedom of Worship bill, as passed by the Legislature and now in the hands of the Governor, shows that there is no justification for any outcry against the measure.

The bill makes no discrimination whatever in favor of any form of religion. In this respect it is strictly constitutional. It is in accordance with both the letter and the spirit of the Constitution of the State. The right of the people to worship God according to the dictates of their consciences, which the Constitution guarantees, is carefully guarded and enforced by the bill.

The inmates of penal, protective, and reformatory institutions receiving public support are allowed the religious services and spiritual ministrations which they respectively prefer. "In such manner and at such times as will be in harmony with the discipline and the rules and regulations of the institution."

Why is not that fair enough? How can the State obtain otherwise with regard to the Constitution, if it permits any religious teaching or worship in these institutions? The only tenable ground on which the bill is opposed is that it is a religious service of any kind should be conducted in a State institution, but that the institution should be wholly secular, the State having nothing to do with religion.

It is the same question which has come up with reference to the public schools. There being no State religion, and opinions differing so widely as to religion, it is impossible to provide religious instruction in them without provoking the opposition of sincere religious conviction. Such a thing as an eclectic religion satisfactory to all parties does not exist, and it cannot be got up. The schools must be secular, or the school system must go to pieces, and the business of instruction be intrusted to the different churches or denominations, Protestants and Catholics, Jews and pagans.

In the same way, if the freedom of choice as to religion which the bill grants to the inmates of the institutions described, is not permitted, only such institutions as are absolutely secular can receive aid from the State. All religious must be provided for or none.

What is the purpose for which religious teaching is desired for the inmates of these institutions? It is to make them better. No one can doubt that they will be made better whether they are taught to be good Catholics or good Protestants. Even the strictest Protestant, who is devout in his religious belief, would hardly say that it is better that they should be infidels than Catholics. He would prefer, of course, that they should be improved in the Protestant way, but he would rather that they should get Catholic instruction than no religious instruction at all. The only aim of both parties is to save the souls of these wicked and unfortunate people.

Really we can see no reasonable objection to this bill which either side can urge, though it is easy to understand why it should encounter pagan opposition on the ground that no public money should be given for the support of any religious services or teachings.

Will Russia Change Her Commercial Policy?

A good deal of uneasiness seems to have been excited in France by the report contained in the Paris correspondent of the London *Times* that Russia is disposed to enter the commercial union of the three central powers. The project is said to have been recommended by Count SHORVALOFF, the Russian Minister at Berlin, and to have gained the approval of the Russian Minister of Finance, who has gone so far as to draw up a treaty which, in his opinion, might be acceptable to both Russia and Germany. It is in order to bring about the conclusion of such a treaty that a visit of the Czar to Berlin has been proposed.

It is a mistake, however, to assume that a change in Russia's commercial policy would be an assurance of peace. The economic crisis through which the northern empire is now passing is of such gravity that for the moment all political considerations must be subordinated to the effort to meet financial relief. The famine has imposed on the treasury an extra burden of at least a hundred million dollars, while at the same time the income from taxes has fallen off. For the present there is no possible means of stimulating the sources of wealth except by a revival of the export trade, and this can only be effected by lowering or lowering the customs wall between Russia and Germany. If a decided increase of her financial resources should follow Russia's entrance into the commercial union of the three central powers, the prospects of war would not be lessened but augmented; for the Czar would be better able to meet the expenditure involved in the mobilization and commissariat of his armies.

The notion that the extinction or diminution of commercial barriers is a guarantee of international peace is entirely at variance with the facts of history. Since the passage of the Act of Union Ireland and England have enjoyed perfect freedom of trade with one another, yet to-day the majority of Irishmen are even more hostile to Englishmen than they were in the last century. There was no Custom House wall between the Northern and Southern States in 1801, but that did not prevent the outbreak of a civil war. In 1866 Prussia and most of the northern German States were united by the Zollverein; nevertheless, nearly all the minor members of this customs union obeyed the orders of the Confederate Diet, and sided with Austria in the war which culminated at Sedan. If industrial relations were likely to put an end to the antipathy between Russia and Germany, how does it happen that the Russians have so long been hostile to the German colonies which have long been settled in the Czar's dominions?

That the Austrian Government should take an unfavorable view of Russia's desire to enter the German customs union is nat-

ural enough, because Hungary, as an exporter of food staples and the raw materials of manufactures, is Russia's competitor for the markets of Germany. There is no ground, however, for the apprehension held to be entertained at Vienna, that Russia, by the bribe of a commercial treaty, might persuade Germany to withdraw her support of Austria's interests in the Balkan peninsula. Germany could not afford to let Austria engage in a single-handed contest with Russia on the Bulgarian question. No one doubts that in such a struggle the Russians would be seriously beaten, and the probable outcome would be the detachment of Austria from the Triple Alliance. The loss of her one considerable ally would grievously weaken Germany in her inevitable contest with France, for it is well understood that Italy could render no substantial help. For its own sake, therefore, the Berlin Government must prevent Austria from being crippled and humiliated by the Czar in southeastern Europe.

The Law Must Be Violated.

JOHN FORSTMAN and OTTO SCHNEIDER were arraigned before United States Commissioner STUBBS on Wednesday on the charge of bribery, and they were admitted to bail in the sum of \$2,000 each.

The accusation is that they bribed EDWARD W. STIMONS, a Custom House weigher, to pass certain large consignments of firecrackers at less than their actual weight. Both FORSTMAN and SCHNEIDER are men who have always borne a good reputation, but, very properly, that circumstance has not shielded them from arrest on a charge so infamous. Justice must be vindicated.

This case of bribery differs from Mr. E. L. GODKIN's in that it is alleged that the officer to whom the bribe was offered took the money, and has become a witness for the Government against the accused. JOHN CONNELLY refused to take the bribe three times offered by GODKIN. He could not be seduced from the performance of his duty, and as an honorable man and a faithful officer his testimony is entitled to the more weight. Even the world's-briber GODKIN has been compelled to pay a tribute to his honesty at the same time that he acknowledges his own infamous crime. The officer spurned the bribe with which the editor sought to corrupt him. He could not be diverted from his duty. The integrity of the one made the dishonesty of the other seem the more odious, especially as GODKIN is a comparatively poor man and GODKIN is rich.

It is understood that GODKIN meditates an escape to Europe, his passage having been taken on a steamer which sails tomorrow. To cover his flight from justice, as represented by the faithful and incorruptible CONNELLY, he expects to escape from it, as represented by the police magistrate, the District Attorney, and the Grand Jury, by taking a hasty departure for a foreign country.

He should not be permitted to get away. He should be arrested at once for his attempt at bribery and arraigned in the police court on the charge. It is a serious crime, punishable by the Criminal Code with great severity. The penalty is imprisonment not to exceed ten years and a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or both.

It might be said that if GODKIN would get out of this country permanently, and return to his native Ireland, never again to show himself here, the ends of American justice would be attained as completely as if he were convicted. He would not be a danger to the country, and he would be a good citizen in his native land. He would execute on himself a sentence of deportation for life which would satisfy public sentiment even more thoroughly than his temporary incarceration under our law against bribery. But justice must be administered without any such evasion. The law must be vindicated. The Code provides for no penal banishment. It imposes imprisonment at home as the penalty for his crime.

GODKIN, accordingly, must be held accountable to the law as it is, grateful as his voluntary and permanent banishment would be to the public.

Well, Hardly!

A State Senator of Georgia, one POPE BARROW, is quoted by the *New York Times* as saying: "I believe that CLEVELAND will be nominated before the State of New York is reached in the call of the States."

The alleged BARROW seems to require some elementary instruction in arithmetic. If every State should vote solidly for CLEVELAND, from Alabama to New Jersey, down to New York on the list, Mr. CLEVELAND would still lack one hundred votes of a nomination.

Yet the Hon. POPE BARROW is not the only person who is making this ridiculous statement. It is of a piece with the other noisy and shallow claims of the Claimant.

The National Game.

A new local nine and a new League are expected to begin the baseball season in New York to-day, and there are conflicting views of the situation. Prognostications as to the future come from feelings running all the way from the enthusiasm of the grand high thirty-third degree crank to the misgivings of the pessimist who thinks that professional baseball is done for and that this season's expected failure will prove it.

If we must side with one of these two extremes, we must stand by the latter. The national game has not recovered fully, perhaps, from the terribly damaging split which two years ago. The twelve-club league which was formed last year, and which was the old system of two leagues, one of nine, by common consent, better than the other and representing more definitely the highest talent and the national club-ship. Stars don't shine so prominently either as in the past. The old stars are not so bright, and it is now several years since any new one arose into anything like a generally recognized individuality. There are not many new players, all told. Yet for all that we feel that the little begun to-day will roll to the autumn with brilliancy on the part of the professionals, and interest and attention on the part of the public which will put the stamp of success upon the season and carry the national sport to greatness not yet attained in its history.

E. ELBERT ANDERSON again is late in a dress suit. After appearing for him in evening dress, Anderson made a speech in which he declared that the Government was the best friend of the people of the United States, and that the Democratic party was the best friend of the people of the United States, and that the Democratic party was the best friend of the people of the United States.

This was at a Mugwump missionary meeting in the gas-house district. Mr. E. ELBERT ANDERSON erred in judgment when he adopted for his dress coat the dress of the New York City Police, and when he spoke in the example of the late Mr. FASSITT, or should I have worn his dress coat reversed, that is to say with the swallow tail in front.

In another column we report the formation of an association specially devoted to the affairs of the trader and his drivers and breeders. It is not often that an organization pro-

posing to enter politics starts out with such frankness in stating the methods, offensive and defensive, with which it proposes to operate, and our feeling is that it begins in a spirit of rational confidence and good-will to produce the results they most desire. The people of this country and State like the trotter, but they do not take readily to the idea of being driven themselves by the application of such power as is claimed for this new society. Harmony is a great thing, and wisdom and respect for the public are greater yet.

The Mugwumps seeking the nomination of their idol are inviting the Democratic party to constitute itself the Great American Suicide Club. The Democracy won't join. If it knows itself, and we think it does.

Three hundred and fifty thousand dollars is needed to complete the GRANT monument, and we believe that the whole sum will be raised in the next few days. The people of this country and State like the trotter, but they do not take readily to the idea of being driven themselves by the application of such power as is claimed for this new society. Harmony is a great thing, and wisdom and respect for the public are greater yet.

The Election Inspectors bill just passed at Albany, against which the Republicans and the Democratic World are raising an outcry, is a wise and proper measure. It simply provides for the precincts of the city of New York the same number and the same division of election inspectors as prevails in all the rest of the State. It also saves a large sum of money to the city treasury. That is all.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

Open Letter to Senator Hill.

My DEAR SIR: I beg leave to say to you that I am very glad to see that you favor debate on the Silver bill in the Senate.

The recent elections show that the people are dissatisfied with the action of the House in favor of the silver question. The people of this country and State like the trotter, but they do not take readily to the idea of being driven themselves by the application of such power as is claimed for this new society. Harmony is a great thing, and wisdom and respect for the public are greater yet.

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THE MUSIC OF SCIENCE.

An Interview with the Man on the Eve of a Performance of Darwin's "Earthworms."

"I have been absolutely worthless to myself for the past fortnight," said the man, "and am pretty sure that I shall do no work at all this summer. I feel it in my bones."

"No," said the man, "I know spring fever, and have no fear of it. Men are apt to be depressed in the spring because awakening vegetation and the nascent friskiness of the lower animals use up so much of the restricted quantity of electricity, which nature has to spare, that there is precious little left for man. Therefore he languishes and does not feel like working, but presently, when the plants and the brute world have got well on the way to make their own electricity and leave man's alone, the feeling passes off."

"Then you think that electricity is life, as advertisements say it is?"

"When I feel like thinking so," said the man, "I feel like thinking so. I read in *True Revue* a letter from a Brooklyn philosopher whose name escapes me, in which he said that man's soul was electricity, and the divine soul was 'in and of the ether.' It struck me at the time that this might be true, for I knew to the contrary, and I remained in that frame of mind until I found that the Brooklyn man misinterpreted Lodge's opinion in regard to the nature of electricity, and by the way, Lodge says that in some ways electricity acts as if it were matter, while in other ways it is not matter. When this came to my mind, I began to understand the philosopher's misunderstanding of another philosopher's statement, and I began to doubt that the conclusions he drew from his misinterpretation of the other philosopher's statement were, after all, things considered, highly justifiable. I think, however, that they might be justifiable only in the eyes of those who were reached could hardly be deemed a priori. I suppose the soul might as well be electricity as anything else."

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